شری غلام نبی آزاد : سر، میں ایک ہی جواب میں ختم کرونگا ہمارے پاس کلکتہ کے لئے پچھمی بنگال کی طرف سے، بنگلور کے لئے کرناٹک کی طرف سے اور بمبئی کے لئے مہاراشٹر کی طرف سے پرپوزل آیا ہے۔ باقی ہمارے پاس کوئی پروپوزل نہیں آیا ہے۔ .....مداخلت....

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: What about Andhra? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question. Question No. 529.

*529. [The questioner (Shri C. Ramachandraiah) was absent. For answer *vide* page 32].

Censor certificates for film festivals and national awards

*530. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that eminent film producers have requested that censor certificates should not be mandatory for the films competing for the National Awards and film festivals;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) what is the accepted international practice and whether censor certificates are mandatory for such films; and

(d) how many films we denied censor certificates during 2004 and the percentage in relation to the films granted censor certificates?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has constituted a Committee including the concerned stakeholders to make recommendations to the Government on the same.

(c) The Directorate of Film Festivals have stated that there is no fixed international practice pertaining to certification of films being entered into

†Transliteration of Urdu Script.

various film festivals. The films being entered into the various film festivals internationally are subject to certification process depending upon the country hosting the festival and the cultural background of the host country.

(d) The number of films granted certificates and number refused certificate by Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) in the year 2004 and their percentage are as follows:

		Percentage refused
Video feature films:		3.88%
Granted	206	
Refused	8	
Video short films:		4.15%
Granted	1854	
Refused	77	
Celluloid feature films:		3.31%
Granted	934	
Refused	31	
Celluloid short films:		0.20%
Granted	1437	
Refused	3	
Celluloid foreign feature films:		2.80%
Granted	285	
Refused	8	
Foreign short films:		1.35%
Granted	222	
Refused	3	

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Sir, my first supplementary is, are censor certificates being denied for films in the name of "danger to national security"? What is the Censor Board's precise perception of "National Security", or, "Communal Harmony", etc.? And, also, in how many cases, films, initially refused the grant of censor certificates, were granted censor certificates after the intervention of judiciary?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, considerations of 'National Security' and "Communal Harmony" naturally govern the process of issue of certification.

Having said that, Sir, these judgements have to be made by the Censor Authority, having regard to the context of each film, each scene. Therefore, there can be no generalisation. Sir, as far as the certification process is concerned, you can see, Sir, from the figures that the pictures censored are not too many. Their figure is not too high. Overall, the number of pictures censored comes to less than four per cent.

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Sir, I had asked, how many films have been granted the permission after the judicial intervention?...*(Interruptions)*... That was my question.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, it is a very good question. There is no doubt about it. But I don't have the figures right now with me. I can supply the figures to the hon. Member later, because that was not part of the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vayalar Ravi...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Sir, I have to put my second supplementary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, you are putting the third supplementary.

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: No; Sir, it is my second supplementary. I had to stand up second time because he did not reply to my first supplementary.

श्री सभापति: चलिए, पूछिए।

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Sir, my second supplementary is, do the guidelines issued by the Government to Censor Boards have sufficient cushion for elements of 'subjectivity'—personal likes or dislikes—and 'objectivity'—impartiality? They are seldom observed.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, the censor guideliens have been very imaginatively framed. But, Sir, in the field of cinema, culture, the judgements are inevitably subjective. It is not possible to form objective criteria. Having regard to this limitation. I cannot say that they are all the time applied objectively. But the effort is to see that impartial judgements are made.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, the recent trend in Hindi cinema is more exposure for attracting the audience. Here I wish to say that Malayalam films have better standards....*(Interruptions)*.... You may, please, look into that. The Malayalam films maintain one of the best standards. Do you have a uniform policy for the regional centres as well as for the Mumbai

centre? In the case of regional films, the scissors of the Censor Board come out and move very fast, and substantial portion of the films are edited. Bollywood presents a different picture altogether. Is it going to be the pattern of Indian cinema, as we see in the recent films of Bollywood? You know what is happening when you go through film magazines, and everywhere else. Hence, I wish to know from the hon.Minister whether there is a uniform policy for censoring certain scenes, where seem to be ugly.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, the guidelines are uniform. Having said that, there can be difference of opinion in regard to the exercise of judgement in regard to particular films, particular scenes. But I can assure the hon. Member that guidelines are the same for Mumbai and Trivandrum.

KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Sir, I would like to state to the hon. Minister and this House that friends, especially peace activists in Pakistan, have been expressing anguish over certain films that not only don't help the peace process but also create enmity and hatred between the two countries. Is there any policy to stop such films, especially in the present context, which can create more hatred between the two countries?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, the concerns expressed by the respected senior Member of the House are shared by me. Our guidelines are so framed as not to enhance any kind of ill-feelings between our country and the neighbouring countries. If there are certain trends, they would be checkmated in regard to particular scenes or in regard to the overall theme.

SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Sir, certification is necessary for exhibiting feature films and other documentary films in the country. But what is happening is that the producers sell video rights to other countries. The video-cassette discs are available all over the world and they get entry into India through the international travellers who are coming into India, especially Indians coming into India. I do not blame them because Indian cinema is also acting as a cultural ambassador. Also these video-cassettes are hoisted on websites, and through the websites they could be seen all over the world, even in India. What is the manner in which you are going to regulate such VCDs and websites?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, the version cleared by the Censor Board is also applicable to VCDs. If there are contraventions in respect of the VCDs, then we take action. As for administration of this process, you will

kindly appreciate that the State Governments need to be alert. We can make the law; we can issue certificates. But as far as the administration is concerned, the matters have to be handled by the State Governments.

*531. [The questioner (Shri Datta Meghe) was absent. For answer *vide* page 33].

*532. [The questioner (Shri S.S. Ahluwalia) was absent. For answer *vide* page 36].

श्रीमती बिम्बा रायकर: सर, मैं महिलाओं के बारे में कहना चाहती थी ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: मैं जब से आया हूं, उस समय से, पहले क्वेश्चन से लेकर आखिरी क्वेश्चन तक, सप्लीमेंट्री की डिमांड करती हैं।

ठीक है, मैं अलाऊ कर दूंगा, लेकिन आप एक बात तो सुन लीजिए..(व्यवधान)... हर क्वेश्चन के ऊपर है ...(व्यवधान)... आप मेरी बात नहीं सुन रहे हैं, इसलिए मैं अलाऊ नहीं करूंगा...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, I would like to know ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Reddy, please see the watch. The Question Hour is over. Now, we shall take up Papers to be Laid on the Table.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

New building bye-laws

*521. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to frame new building bye-laws to control illegal construction in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's action plan to regulate illegal/unauthorized private constructions which are overstretching public land and are in complete violation of the building provisions?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Unified Building Bye-laws notified in 1983 are implemented by the local bodies in Delhi including DDA, in the areas